

REMARKS

Claims 3-18 are now in the application. By this Amendment, claims 3-8 and 10-12 have been amended. Claims 1 and 2 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Support for the amendments to claims 3 and 11 is found at least at original claims 1 and 2. Claims 4-8, and 12 have been amended to change their dependency. The amendments to the claims do not introduce any new matter.

Applicants appreciate the indication in the Office Action that claims 3-5, 12 and 13 recite allowable subject matter and that claim 11 is allowable if the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is overcome. Applicants base the amendments herein on this indication of allowability.

Claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, because it is allegedly unclear. Claim 11 is amended to obviate this rejection.

Claims 1, 2, 7-10 and 14-18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hu et al. (U.S. 5,990,040). Claim 6 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Hu et al. in view of Lutchko et al. (U.S. 3,545,915).

Claim 3 is amended into independent form, including all the features of claim 1 and 2. Applicants respectfully request that the rejections over the applied references be withdrawn.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited.

Application No.: 10/526,677

Response to October 10, 2007 Office Action

Response filed March 10, 2008

Docket No.: 12810-00033-US

Please charge the fee for a two-month extension of time to our Deposit Account No. 03-2775, under Order No. 12810-00033-US from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: March 10, 2008

Respectfully submitted,

By _____

Burton A. Amernick

Registration No.: 24,852

CONNOLLY BOVE LODGE & HUTZ LLP

1875 Eye Street, NW

Suite 1100

Washington, DC 20006

(202) 331-7111

(202) 293-6229 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicants